

It's Never the Time ...

Now is the time for you to buy a plot in the Congregation Sha'ar Zahav cemetery.

Our contract with Congregation Sherith Israel, the owner of Hills of Eternity Cemetery, guarantees that our members will be offered all cemetery services at the same price paid by members of Sherith Israel. Due to rising costs, Sherith Israel will raise prices to everyone on February 1.

However, if you act before that date, you can make your arrangements at current prices. You may sign a contract now, make a relatively small down payment, and lock in current prices. You may take up to five years to make payments, interest free.

Our friends at Hills of Eternity are experts at helping make pre-need arrangements. Make an appointment today. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and make important decisions in a calm and rational manner, thus avoiding last-minute choices at a time of extreme emotional distress. As always, the members of our Cemetery Committee are available to discuss cemetery matters with you.

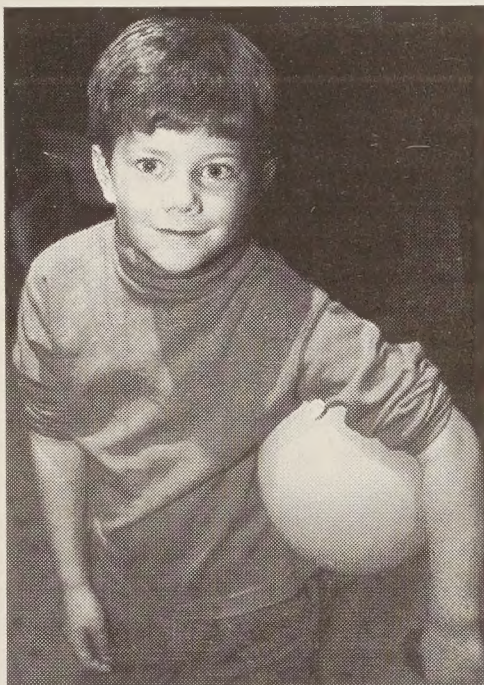
Please call the people at Hills of Eternity today at (415) 756-3633. Let them show you around. Take care of this matter now. There will never be a better time. Please see advertisement on page 8.

—Richard Inlander,
Cemetery Committee Chair

CSZ Trip to Israel

More than 30 CSZ members responded to the Israel trip questionnaire which appeared in September's newsletter. The responses were from a wide cross-section of the congregation—singles, couples, men, women, a few with children, those who have never been to Israel as well as others who have been there frequently. Based on the number of responses, it appears that this individual and congregational experience of a lifetime might become a reality!

Continued on page 8



Benjamin Morgan-Achtenberg at the Chanukah Hop. See page 8 for more photos. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

Hop Wrap-Up

This year's Chanukah party was a resounding success. On December 7, over 100 people came to Milberry Union on the UCSF campus to dance, schmooze, eat and celebrate. The silent auction provided partygoers with an extensive array of items on which to bid. Lyssa Friedman did an outstanding job coordinating it. Special thanks go to her, Marc Mencher for soliciting businesses for their donations, and Matt Levine, who solicited a wide range of health-food products.

Other people who were instrumental in making the party a success were Claudia Bernard, Daniel Chesir, Alison Cohen, Paul Cohen, Lynn Eden, Jerry Geffner, Allan Gold, Howard Goldberg, Jonathan Goldman, Allyce Kimmerling, Ida Kuluk, Joan Lefkowitz, Shirley Liberman, Carolyn Pines, Nathan Robinson, Martha Rosett, Lane Schickler, and Ruth Schoenbach. And thanks to all the members and businesses who donated to the silent auction. Without your continued support it would not have happened.

Continued on page 8

Newsletter Chair To Step Down

Howard Blechman, chair of the Newsletter Committee, has announced his retirement effective with the January 1992 issue, which will mark the 45th issue with which he was involved. During his tenure, he has continued to improve the synagogue's publication—a process that had begun a decade before his rise to leadership.

Howard joined the committee back in 1987, when Alex Ingersoll had just turned the reins over to Bob Goldware. This was at time of understandable confusion because Alex had been steering the newsletter's direction for so many years and had become, inevitably, the "Grand Old Man" of *The Gaily Forward*.

For a period of time, Howard co-chaired with Alita Rosenfeld (before she resigned due to the new baby in her household—Daniel). Fortunately for the synagogue, Alita has maintained her participation by continuing to lay out the bulk of the issue every month.

Improvements instituted during Howard's chairship include a more readable and informative back page calendar, greater use of photographs (when available), increased use of graphics, and the use of the latest computer techniques to enhance the newsletter's overall image.

Asked what he thought was his greatest (and yet unsolved) committee problem, Howard responded that getting and keeping good committee members was difficult—especially considering the fact that the necessary participation time was so minimal.

"The work doesn't take great skill and we have fun getting together each month. This is not a typical working committee. I hope that the congregation appreciates that the *Forward* is our 'best foot forward' to the community at large. Each month I am amazed at how such a small time investment produces such a tangible and satisfying return."

Continued on page 3

On a Personal Note

I've always felt that Judaism was a religion that gives lots of second chances. Most of these chances are results of our traditions and teachings themselves. For example, each year during the High Holidays, we have the opportunity to be forgiven for our mistakes and the chance to try again. On the other hand, sometimes we Jews get a second chance because of the simple fact that we lead our lives according to two different calendars. Not everyone has the luxury of getting to look back and reflect on the past year and look forward to a new beginning twice a year (or maybe three times if you do that on your birthday). A mere three or so months after celebrating Rosh Hashanah, we once again can pause to consider where we have been and where we are going, reflect on resolutions made, and chance course if necessary.

I'm particularly glad at the end of this year to have a fresh start on my life. Granted, all demarcations are artificial divisions of continuous time, but the last three months have seemed like a whole year to me, and I'm ready to begin anew. Since Rosh Hashanah, my life and that of my family has been filled with serious illness, unusual work stress, unemployment, a car accident, the death of several close friends, and extraordinary responsibilities. I feel like every time someone asks how I am, I either have to lie or go into a litany of unpleasant events. I keep hoping that 1992 will bring relief from all of this.

One might ask what all of this has to do with Sha'ar Zahav. Surprisingly, most of all to me, I have been continually sustained by my work for the congregation and by you—its members. At the end of six months in office, I've actually started saying that I'm glad I have a two-year term. I feel pleased with where we are, in improved financial condition, starting some new programs including outreach and more social events, bringing new members into our volunteer pool, starting office renovations. I love working with my officers and Va'ad, and what might have turned out to be a lonely and overwhelming task feels communal, supportive, and manage-

able. While all those other things in my life haven't been going very well, I feel grateful that I can make a positive impact on Sha'ar Zahav and that I receive much more from all of you in return.

It is 1992—a brand new year. I am hoping for myself, my family, friends, and all of you, not a break with the past, but a fresh outlook, a renewal, some optimism, some fun, good health, and the joy that comes from working and playing together. Let's hope that we can experience all of that at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

—Allan Gold

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in December. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Michael Randall
Francine Frohlich
John Rosenbaum

We're grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$18/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Howard Blechman, chair, Richard Inlander, Ellen Murland, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld, and Lane Schickler (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Howard Goldberg, Alex Ingersoll, Merry Luskin, Sam Thal, Eli Weinstein, Sylvia Weisenberg, Donna Rabinowitz, and Ron Wilmot (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

The Madness Returns

Pull out your garters and groggers, hats and hamentashen, and masks and mascara! Megillah Madness returns! Mark Saturday, March 21, in your calendars and datebooks. While planning your costumes and finding your hamentashen recipes, think about getting involved—it's easy and fun! If you want to join in or if you can supply something on the wish list below, call co-coordinator Nathan Robinson (415) 567-8706, or the office.

Purim Wish List

Purim revelers	Helium balloons
Hamentashen and	Table centerpieces
hamentashen bakers	Tablecloths
Groggers	Purim decorations
Actors	Costumers and costumes
Singers and non-singers	Makeup applicators
Dancers and non-dancers	Masks
Writers	Haute couture
Designers and decorators	Judges
Parachutes	Mirrored disco ball

Jewish Women's Conference

"Women as a Force for Social Change" is both the title and goal of a day-long intergenerational conference for Bay Area Jewish women, slated for Sunday, March 1, at Golden Gate University, San Francisco.

The day will include major addresses by key figures in the American and Israeli women's movements along with workshops on topics including civil rights, reproductive rights, workplace and student issues, religious life, Jewish identity, leadership and personal concerns.

The conference, which is sponsored by a grassroots coalition of Jewish community organizations, promises to be the galvanizing event of the year for Bay Area Jewish women. It offers opportunities to build bridges in our diverse community. To get involved in the planning or for more details, call the Jewish Community Federation at (415) 777-0411.

Summer Camp

True, it's hard to think about long summer days in the season of long winter nights. But spring is just around the corner, summer is not far behind—and the time to apply to send Bay Area youngsters to Jewish summer residential camps is right now.

Applications for Camps Moshava, Ramah, Ramat-Arazim, Swig, Tawonga, and Young Judaea are available from the camps themselves or through the rabbi. Financial aid in the form of "camperships," administered by the Bureau of Jewish Education on behalf of the Jewish Community Endowment Newhouse Fund, can be applied for at the same time.

Step Down

Continued from page 1

No new chair has yet been chosen; the committee will be run by the members as a group until new leadership emerges.

The committee and the synagogue leadership thank and salute Howard for his diligence and creativity. His lasting contribution to the congregation over these past few years will always be present in our archives—it lives on in the form of the *Forward's* back issues.

Tiul Means Hike

You are invited to join with the Gay/Lesbian Israeli Chevreh (group) of the Bay Area (most of whom are not connected to Sha'ar Zahav), in a Tu B'Shevat tiul.

Tu B'Shevat is sometimes known as Israel's Arbor Day, a sort of New Year's for the trees and a time to be particularly in touch with nature. Following are the details:

It will be held on Sunday, January 19 at 11 am sharp. We will meet at Pantoll Ranger Station on Mt. Tamalpais. Pack a lunch. Don't forget to take beverages! If it rains, call (415) 824-4449 to see if the tiul is canceled. Please note that dogs are not permitted on the trails.

Here are the directions from San Francisco: Over the Golden Gate Bridge to Highway 1/Stinson Beach exit (approximately 4.5 miles from bridge). Follow signs to Highway 1 West and go approximately 3-4 miles to junction. Branch right at junction onto Panoramic Highway following signs to Mt. Tamalpais. Continue approximately 5.5 miles to the Pantoll Ranger Station (on the left side).

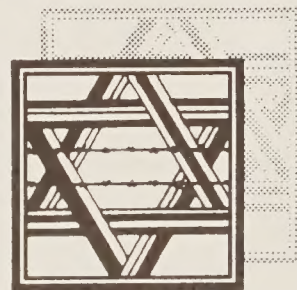
And wear sturdy shoes!

Bay Area Jewish Educators

Once a year, in February, Jewish educators from all over the Bay Area get together for an area-wide conference. They exchange ideas, attend workshops, explore new methods of teaching Hebrew and Judaica, and examine the ways in which Jewish values can impact today's youth, today's problems and challenges.

This year's full-day Bay Area Jewish Educators' Conference will be held on Sunday, February 2, at the Marin Jewish Community Center in San Rafael. The theme of the conference and of the keynote address will be "Family Education." In addition, 40 workshops will treat such topics as Sephardic Jewry and Teaching About Israel. Sponsors include the Bureau of Jewish Education, the Agency for Jewish Education of the Greater East Bay, the Jewish Federation and Schools of Sacramento, Lehrhaus Judaica, and the Principals' Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater San Jose.

Holocaust Oral History Project



KEEP HISTORY ALIVE!

The Holocaust Oral History Project is sponsoring an audio-visual equipment drive for similar projects in the Soviet Union.

cassette recorders

video cameras

computers

film

voltage converters

rechargeable batteries

FAX machine

light kit

broadcast beta camera

VCRs

video tapes

35mm cameras

microphones

batteries

rechargers

Xerox machines

sound equipment

video editing equipment

If you can help by donating any of the above mentioned equipment (or if you would like to donate time or money the Project) please call the Holocaust Oral History Project at (415) 882-7092. Your donations will be sent directly to the Soviet Union where they will help keep history alive.

Still Second Class

One of the common defenses for the idea that homosexual people should remain second class is that our relationships are not "enduring." In fact, the proportion of gay and lesbian people today who are in relationships is generally comparable to that of their heterosexual counterparts. Of course, we do not consider being "in a relationship" to be an end in itself; freed from historical pressure to "stay married," we are properly concerned with the quality of our relationships and often not afraid to end an unsuccessful one. The Catch-22 for gay and lesbian people is that we are, on the one hand, often criticized for the apparently short duration or flexibility of our relationships and then, on the other, rendered invisible or even oppressed because of our commitments. The Reform movement has taken great strides towards welcoming gay and lesbian Jews; personally, though, I have recently been made to feel welcome only if I remain invisible as a gay person.

People of color and women generally do not have an option of "passing"; they come out by their physical presence. If we are Jewish, lesbian or gay, we usually can pass until we choose to come out. For many, being Jewish at work is "never an issue"—until we ask for the High Holidays off or refuse to work on Shabbat. When we do come out, we ask for the same freedoms that the majority enjoys as a matter of privilege. Because the majority has always had these freedoms and never had to suffer or even ask for them, they are taken for granted as "natural." Thus, the fact that offices and schools and factories—the entire society—recognizes and organizes itself around the Christian calendar is not considered providing for the needs of a "special interest." When we ask for recognition and accommodation for *our* communal calendar, though, any consideration is often viewed as a special gift or extraordinary privilege.

Similarly, it is not a big deal to be gay or lesbian, or members of their families, friends and community, *so long as we don't do anything that draws attention to our differences*. Everyone at the office might know that you are gay, but the trouble only starts when you ask to bring your life partner to a social event at which family members are allegedly welcome.

This summer, a just-graduated attorney was fired from her new job on the staff of the attorney general of Georgia (that's Attorney General Bowers of *Bowers vs. Hardwick* fame) because Mr. Bowers learned that she had had a religious union ceremony with her lesbian partner. Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, who many of you heard at the World Congress, officiated at the ceremony for these two women. We are castigated for the alleged instability of our relationships and oppressed when we try to honor them.

Reading the news accounts of this unfortunate situation, I am reminded of the gratitude I feel at my opportunity to fulfill my rabbinate in this community and congregation. This is the community where we live and feel fully supported and acknowledged by the entire San Francisco Jewish community. It is with sadness, though, that I must report that my 10-year relationship with Dan—and our celebration and ceremony of *kiddushin*—has been rendered invisible by my collegial association, the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The CCAR is the association of Reform rabbis in North America and it publishes a monthly newsletter. (The CCAR is a separate organization from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), the synagogue body of which CSZ is a member and which has been leading the way in accepting and integrating lesbian and gay Jews since 1973.) Shortly after our ceremony, I sent a simple note, asking that the "mazel tov" column announce that "Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm celebrated their *kiddushin* on June 16."

While it would be a first, I did not think this request was a big deal. Back in 1986, I was appointed to the CCAR Committee on Homosexuality and the Rabbinate. In 1989, I gave an address to our centennial convention on "The *Kiddushah* (Sanctity) of Homosexual Relationships." At our 1990 convention, the report of our committee was overwhelmingly accepted by the conference.

Imagine my surprise when, after two months of silence, I received a reply informing me that such an announcement could not be made lest the conference be seen to be "condoning the performance of same-sex marriages." I was deeply disappointed and appealed the

matter to the entire board. The president has just replied, informing me that this matter "is broader than any personal announcement" and that the matters will be referred to a committee (where else?) for further discussion. The committee is charged with coming up with a policy before our 1992 annual convention next June.

On the one hand, I could be grateful for the progress we have made. I am. And I'm appreciative that this issue is being taken seriously. I guess so. And I'm sympathetic to people who are slowly overcoming their resistance. Kind of. And I'm patient as we go over the same ground again and again. Not too. Mostly I am disappointed that the deepest commitments and meanings of my life as a person, a Jew and a rabbi are invisible to my colleagues.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Oneg Sponsors

During December, the following generous people sponsored onegs:

- 6 Sponsored by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav in honor of Dana Vinicoff for her years of service as the Ensemble leader
- 13 Sponsored by Robin Leonard in honor of the presentation of the cookbook donation to Open Hand
- 20 Sponsored by Daniel Chesir in memory of his father and sister
- 27 Sponsored by Blanche and Marsha Blachman commemorating their father's *yahrzeit*

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Marvelous Mouse Type

Our thanks to David Lester of Mouse Type for his creative layout of the pink Project Open Hand sign-up form in last month's issue. The form proved to be extremely helpful in our recruitment efforts.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

General Fund

We encourage donations to the General Fund in particular, since such donations can be used for any synagogue purpose.

Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines, in honor of Leah Ann Fraimow-Wong and her two official moms

Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines, in memory of Jeffrey Miller, Duane Puryear, and Ernie Weinstein

Sandra Blair and Carol Cohen

Robert Coffman, in memory of Henry Mauntner

Allan Berenstein, in honor of Hal Podgur's "special" birthday and in memory of his father, Harry Berenstein

Harriet Tucker, in memory of Ruth Gelmis, mother of Susan Gelmis

Samuel Kasoff and Francine Stein, in memory of Frank Hyman

Mel and Judy Sadoff, in memory of their nephew, Jeffrey Miller

Susan Fraimow-Wong, in honor of the adoption of Leah Fraimow-Wong by Linda Fraimow-Wong

Charles Norton, in memory of Bill Schlichter and Frank Hyman

Samuel Kasoff and Francine Stein, in memory of Frank Hyman and for the love and support from Ron Wilmot, Rabbi Kahn, and Alex Ingersoll and David Stein

Judy Schwartz, in honor of Carolyn Pines and Scott Mezistrano for their High Holiday Coordination

Robert Cohen, in memory of Monty Allport

Daniel Cohn and Annette Goggio, in honor of the marriage of Tiela Chalmers and Nancy Koch

Nancy Meyer, in honor of the Dues Committee

Lawrence Hyman, in memory of Charles Hyman

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in memory of Phil Silverstein

Merry Luskin, in memory of Jeffrey Miller

David Shaber, in memory of Frieda Shaber

Donald and Nancy Cochrane, in memory of Monty Allport

Stephen Shotland, in appreciation of Cheryl Kellin

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of Scott Mezistrano and Carolyn Pines' coordination of the High Holiday services

Betty Kalis, in memory of Sherman Kalis and Dorothy Hodes

Jon Funk and John Arnold, in honor of the marriage of Claudia Bernard and Howard Herman

AIDS Fund

Allan Berenstein, in memory of those we've lost

Donald Abrams, in memory of Mark Henry

Hal Podgur, in memory of Frank Hyman

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Susan Stahl, in honor of Eric, Aaron, and Shawn Cooper-Keitel

Building Fund

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in memory of Jeffrey Miller

Kaiser Brunch Fund

Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, in memory of Frank Hyman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Tiela Chalmers and Nancy Koch, in honor of Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Susan Stahl, in memory of Bill Schlichter

Naches

To **Richard Wright** on the marriage of his daughter, Melissa.

To **Isabel Fishman** for being named the Poet Laureate of the Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning at the University of San Francisco.

To **Hal Podgur** on the birth of his grandson, Christopher Patrick Brew, on November 24.

To **Linda and Susan Fraimow-Wong** on the adoption of Linda Sue Fraimow-Wong on September 24.



Looking for a mind-altering experience?

Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian, Gay and Jewish

is now available in
paperback.

The Sha'ar Zahav gift shop sold out of all the hardback copies and is now happy to make the paperback edition available at a reduced price to the congregation. It will be available at the low price of

\$12⁰⁰

That's \$2.95 off the cover price!

You can purchase your copy from the gift shop or order by mail.

To place your order by mail, please enclose a check with the form below and return it to:

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
220 Danvers Street
San Francisco, CA 94114**

Please send me _____ books at \$12 each \$_____

California residents, add 8.25% sales tax \$_____

Shipping: First copy \$2 \$_____

each additional copy \$1 \$_____

Total enclosed \$_____

Please send my order to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Carolyn Pines

Time and again, new and potential members hear from the veterans: "If you want to feel a part of the Sha'ar Zahav community and get to know people, volunteer!" Carolyn Pines is an example of how a new member can become well known, admired and personally gratified after only a short time. It doesn't take much to get Carolyn's cooperation. (I found pizza helped me to get this interview.)

Carolyn describes herself modestly as having spent her life "bumbling into things." Somehow, though, whatever she "bumbles" into becomes her passion. She bumped into Vassar College as a drama major. "A Family Blanket," her graduate school thesis and first play, was produced by the Henry Street Settlement in New York City. Doing temp work in New York, she fell into the publishing field and within four years became an expert in subsidiary rights (please ask *her* what that means). Advertising became her next area of expertise. After eight years of working with Merrill Lynch, she left as a vice president.

Born in Brooklyn (wasn't everyone?), she grew up on Long Island. After schooling in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and Dallas, she landed in Manhattan for eight years and then Princeton for four more years. So how did she end up in San Francisco? Through matchmaking! Carolyn's loving landlady and her family were determined to find a partner for her and got her in contact with our own Judy Schwartz. Judy and Carolyn began writing to each other. After six months, they arranged to meet in Disneyworld where love blossomed in Fantasyland, so to speak. After visits back and forth between New Jersey and San Francisco, Carolyn decided to move here in February of last year. Carolyn, Judy and Carolyn's dog, Joggle, drove cross country by way of Motel 6s and Denny's.

She was already interested in CSZ before she arrived, having read *Twice Blessed* and *Out of Our Kitchen Closets*. Without employment, Carolyn decided to get involved at Sha'ar Zahav right away. Of course, she had to join the membership committee (Judy is chair).

But as Carolyn says, "I can't stand meetings. I like to do projects and manage; I can be a real prima donna." She got her first chance when asked to be co-coordinator of High Holiday services this year—a major undertaking which she enjoyed immensely.

Carolyn was impressed by Sha'ar Zahav's willingness to allow "me to just take the ball and run with it.... This is the first time in my life that volunteering has worked for me. It has been quite satisfying to make a unique contribution." Carolyn didn't go to Hebrew school



Carolyn Pines

and says her strongest connections with Judaism were through food, music and dance (she was a counselor at a Jewish camp). Her involvement with CSZ has been "my best Jewish experience."

So where does Carolyn go from here? To make *our* Jewish experience better through her continued good work, she

will be co-coordinator of our Purim party, Megillah Madness, working with Nathan Robinson. She also wants to find a role in children's programs as she and Judy look ahead to future parenthood. Inspired by Rabbi Kahn's charismatic enthusiasm for learning, she's also taken the time to enhance *her* Jewish experience by taking Phyllis Mintzer's classes: Prayerbook Hebrew and Introduction to Judaism.

Though she is still seeking permanent employment, we know that even if her time is more limited in the future, Carolyn has already made our congregation richer for her contributions. May she continue to bumble into our lives for years to come.

—Lane Schickler

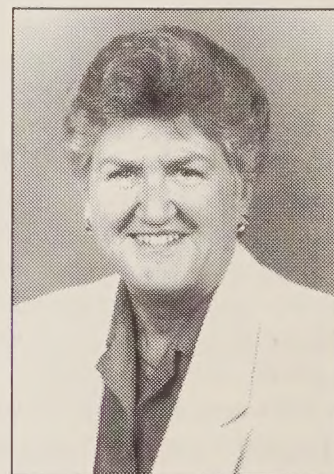
Classifieds

HOUSEMATE NEEDED (M/F) by CSZ member, 45 y.o., grad student, mature, easy to get along with. Seeking right person to share very nice house in Bernal Heights. Two rooms with separate bathroom. Modern kitchen, W/D. Approximately \$600 + util. Call Arthur, 550-0307.

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1929 Market Street
San Francisco

Discount or referral fee to CSZ members



Social Action Phoenix

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav once again has a Social Action Committee. We have started several projects and planned others.

You may have noticed a new collection box, next to the AIDS Food Bank box. We are collecting warm clothes and blankets for homeless women, men and children. Please bring hats, coats, socks, gloves, shirts—anything that's fit to wear. It looks like a long cold winter's ahead. Warm clothes won't solve homelessness, but they could help save lives.

Congregational money has already been set aside for feeding the hungry. This puts the committee in the happy position of being able to spend it. For the past few years, the Bikkur Cholim Committee has given away sandwiches. Now that the Coalition on Homelessness exists to represent homeless people, we will ask them how we can best spend the money. They may like the idea of giving away sandwiches, or they may have other priorities.

The Jewish Family and Children's Service organizes Friday afternoon onegs in the Tenderloin. Working at one of these gives an opportunity to meet seniors, including lesbians and gay men. CSZ will sponsor the January 17 oneg, which will be held from 1:45 pm to 4 pm at 333 Turk Street. Volunteers are needed to set up, clean up, serve dinner and dessert, and especially to schmooze. If you can't be there January 17, there will be another chance in April.

With our own congregation, we hope to help bring together people who can offer jobs (or job-hunting skills) to those who need work. This could take the form of a computerized job bank, or simply a bulletin board in the oneg room.

We already offer the congregation a similar service: matching those who can offer rides with those who need them. Do you have to choose between long, cold waits at the bus stop and missing services? Do you stay home just to avoid a lonely drive on Friday night? Would a carpool help you get to services more often, or make more friends? If so, call Stan at (415) 585-3477.

A small Media Subcommittee is ready to respond on behalf of the congregation to anti-Semitic articles in the gay and alternative press, and to anti-gay articles in the Jewish press. When we

have more members, we can monitor each publication to make sure we respond promptly and systematically. You don't need to be a great letter writer to help. Consistent readers are even more important.

The Social Action Committee has tentative plans in other areas. We are talking with members of the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center about how we can help. Another goal, which we can realize with greater numbers, is to visibly participate in defending Planned Parenthood and other clinics against Operation Rescue and their ilk.

We are also interested in working with the Jewish Community Center's immigrant program. Many synagogues actively welcome Soviet Jews; but who else can really welcome the gay men and lesbians among them?

If you want to participate in any of the above, call Susan B. Foster at (415) 285-4747, or Mark at the office. Our committee doesn't insist that anybody attend its meetings. However, if you want to be in on planning as well as working, come to the next meeting on January 7, at 7 pm, at the synagogue.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Birthdays

1	Steven James Hanely
4	Maggie Rochlin
4	Judith Lauter Baer
6	Scott Mezistrano
6	Nathan Robinson
8	Carol Heller
9	Max Rossoff Nichols
11	Ellen Gierson
12	Florence Nacamulli
12	Tiela Chalmers
19	Mike Rankin
19	Lauren Galanes
20	Eileen Linda Lynette
21	Johanna Johnson
23	Julia Carol Hanely
25	Neil E. Hart
25	Beth Tiana Berkelhammer
30	Aaron Cooper-Keitel

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Remember
the CSZ
Gift Shop!

See the
synagogue
information box
on page 9 for
hours.

Legal help.

In contracts and leases,
wills and powers of attorney,
real estate, business law and litigation.

Goldstein & Gellman

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W



Call David Gellman
415/621-5600

100 Van Ness Avenue, 21st Floor, San Francisco, CA 94102

Israel Trip

Continued from page 1

Many members indicated a preference for scheduling this trip to coincide with the International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews in London, now planned for May 28–31, 1993. Consequently, the CSZ trip to Israel is scheduled to occur immediately following the conference, beginning approximately June 1, 1993.

The trip will occur subject to a minimum of 15 CSZ members participating, and perhaps two or three individuals (including an overall coordinator) coming forward and agreeing to be on a steering committee. Following are preliminary plans:

The tour will be organized under the auspices of the Association of Reform Zionists of America travel program.

Dates will be approximately June 1–10, 1993. The estimated cost in 1993 is \$2,400 (excluding stopover in London, an estimated additional cost of \$300). For 10 nights, double occupancy, with eight days of guided touring, the price includes roundtrip airfare from San Francisco to Tel Aviv (El Al from Los Angeles), departure tax, four dinners and daily breakfast, transfers and portage. Not included are other meals, tips and items of a personal nature. A single occupancy supplement is estimated to be \$350. An extended stay in Israel or Europe is possible—many of you expressed such an interest.

If you want to use frequent flyer mileage, or otherwise have another way to get to Israel, you may participate paying for a land-only package (estimated cost not yet available).

Rabbi Kahn will be the CSZ group

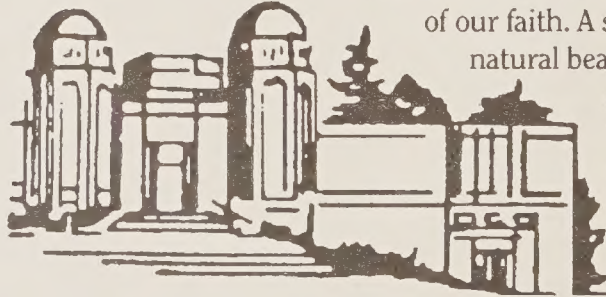
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Payment plans can be discussed

leader. While he is very knowledgeable about the land, people and history of Israel, he will not be the guide. An Israeli guide is provided for the entire tour.

Remember, *we* will select the entire itinerary.

More information will appear in the *Forward* beginning in spring 1992, when an organizational meeting will be held. In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions, please call Ron Lezell at (415) 824-4449.

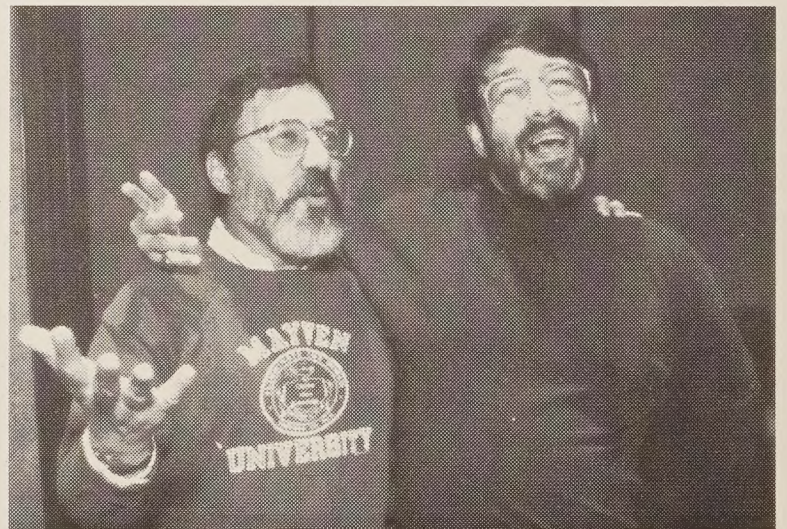
Hop Wrap-Up

Continued from page 1

The sound system, music, and DJ were graciously provided by Randy Schiller. To give our Chanukah celebration that Israeli flair, thanks go to Steve Elman for arranging the donut holes. Mark Pressler and Jim Cotant also provided invaluable assistance. Last, thanks to the Chanukah party co-chairs, Jerry Hipps and Sanford Friedman, for coordinating the activities that led to the evening's success.



Judy Schwartz, Carolyn Pines and Lane Schickler smile for the camera at the Chanukah Hop.



Daniel Chesir and Jonathan Goldman share a moment at the same Hop. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

Super Sunday

Super Sunday '92 will take place on February 9, and recruitment is under-way for volunteers to participate in this day-long "phonathon" which raises funds for the Jewish Community Federation's annual campaign.

Every year more than 1,000 community members play their parts on the phones, helping with the day's hospitality, or providing clerical assistance. This year Super Sunday will take place at the Fashion Center in San Francisco and Albert L. Schultz JCC in Palo Alto. If you would like to participate in this exciting community day, call Karen Marcus at the San Francisco JCF, (415) 777-0411, or Madeline Chaleff in the South Peninsula, (415) 494-8444.

Office Notes

Members will soon be receiving a form listing all personal and yahrzeit information. You will be asked to verify existing information as well as filling in the blanks. This is to ensure that our new database system will be complete and accurate. Beginning December 16, the office renovation will begin, giving the office staff more storage space and ergonomically correct work stations. Our many thanks to Gordon Osser for his donation of an electronic typewriter. It has been put to good and constant use. We are still looking for a fax machine to bring us into the 21st century. Call Mark if you have an old one or know of someone who would like to donate one.

Advertisements

The Jewish Gaily Forward needs your help! We are looking for more advertisers to help support Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's excellent newsletter. If you or a friend have any kind of business or service that may be of benefit to our members, you should consider advertising in the Forward. An advertisement can be as simple as your business card or as complex as you would like. Various discounts are available, and you will help your business and the congregation at the same time! For more information, contact Rick Wilson (647-3258) or Mark Pressler in the office.

Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President, Allan Gold (929-9524)
Administrative Vice President,
 Claudia Bernard
Program Vice President,
 Tiela Chalmers
Treasurer, Brett Trueman
Recorder, Kathy Simon

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Phil Charney
 Daniel Chesir
 Steve Elman
 Gail Friedlander
 Lisa Katz
 Ida Kuluk
 Nathan Robinson
 Judy Schwartz
 Susan Unger

Office Personnel:

Manager, Mark Pressler
Secretary, Jim Cotant

Committee Chairs:

Archivist, Bill Ashley-Dobbin
Bequests and Donations, Pam Schaffer
Bikkur Cholim, by committee
Brotherhood, Eric Keitel
Building, Ellen Gierson
Bylaws, Edward Pollock
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Chavurah, Audrey Adelson & Joan Lefkowitz
Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard
Dues, David Stein & Ron Lezell
Education, Bill Ashley-Dobbin

Finance, by committee
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
Israel Chavurah, Ron Lezell
Long-Range Planning, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir
Membership, Judy Schwartz
Newsletter, Howard Blechman
Oneg, by committee
Past Presidents Council, Don Albert
Personnel, Claudia Bernard
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky
Religious School, Mary Morgan
Ritual, Larry Wexler
Social Action, Susan Foster
Social Program, Marc Mencher
Volunteer Coordinator, Robin Leonard
Women's Chavurah, Susan Tubbesing

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 9 am—4 pm.

Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 7:30—8:05 pm

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Allyce Kimerling, Liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Eric Keitel, Liaison).

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Library Hours: Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שַׁעַר זָהָב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

JANUARY

טבת-שבט

1 Wednesday
25 Tevet

2 Thursday
26 Tevet

- 7:30pm, Children's Education meeting

3 Friday
27 Tevet

- 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Phil Charney and Larry Wexler

4 Saturday
28 Tevet

- 10:30am, Kadimah Family Service, Rebecca Weiner

5 Sunday
29 Tevet

- 6:00pm, Dues Committee

6 Monday
1 Shevat

7 Tuesday
2 Shevat

- 7pm, Social Action Committee at CSZ

8 Wednesday
3 Shevat

9 Thursday
4 Shevat

10 Friday
5 Shevat

- 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Kathy Simon and Scott Mezistrano
- Kadimah Grade Six retreat at Camp Swig

11 Saturday
6 Shevat

- 9:30am, Kadimah
- Kadimah Grade Six retreat at Camp Swig

12 Sunday
7 Shevat

- Kadimah Grade Six retreat at Camp Swig

13 Monday
8 Shevat

- 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting

14 Tuesday
9 Shevat

15 Wednesday
10 Shevat

- 7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro

16 Thursday
11 Shevat

- 7:30pm, Ritual Committee
- 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim

17 Friday
12 Shevat

- 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn and Jonathan Comisar
- 8:15pm, East Bay Services, Larry Wexler

18 Saturday
13 Shevat

- 9:30am, Kadimah

19 Sunday
14 Shevat

- 11am, Tu B'Shevat Tiul, Mt. Tamalpais

20 Monday
15 Shevat

- Tu B'shevat

21 Tuesday
16 Shevat

- 7:30pm, Newsletter proofreading and layout, 1711 Castro

22 Wednesday
17 Shevat

23 Thursday
18 Shevat

24 Friday
19 Shevat

- 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn and Dan Chesir

25 Saturday
20 Shevat

- 9:30am, Kadimah
- 10:30am, Shabbat Services, Rabbi Kahn and Josh Lee

26 Sunday
21 Shevat

27 Monday
22 Shevat

28 Tuesday
23 Shevat

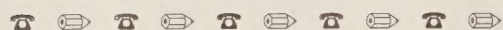
29 Wednesday
24 Shevat

30 Thursday
25 Shevat

31 Friday
26 Shevat

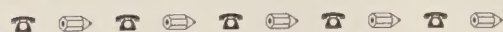
- 8:15pm, Shabbat Services, Larry Wexler and Judith Linzer

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.



Va'ad Non-Report

The December Va'ad report will be included in next months newsletter along with the January report.



Condolences

To **Gordon Osser** on the death of his mother, Jeanette Osser Perlmutter

To **Allan Gold** on the death of his dear friend, David Gass

To **Maia Ettinger** on the death of her friend, Kevin Kennedy

To **Jerry Geffner** on the death of his uncle, Rudy Geffner

To **Robert Cohen** on the death of his friend, Monty Allport



Anniversaries

1 E. Lawney Baldwin & Tony Vernola

1 M. Paul Schwartz & Phillip Gomez

